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Mr. Baker will stop at London, Hamburg and Mombasa, to perfect details of shipment.

It is intended to secure for the park from Mr. Henry Tarleton, of one of the farms near Nairobi, two Coke's hartebeests, a female water-buck and several zebras, specimens of which are not now owned by the park.

#### *PROFESSOR NEWCOMB'S LIBRARY*

THE executor of the estate of the late Professor Simon Newcomb (Mrs. Anita Newcomb McGee, 1620 P Street, Washington, D. C.) offers for sale his complete library of books and pamphlets on astronomy, mathematics and allied subjects. During the working years of his life it had been his policy to possess for himself, so far as circumstances allowed, the books necessary in his work. As years passed on it seemed to him that the collection would prove to be of permanent scientific value and he therefore enlarged it by the addition of books which he did not need at the time but which he deemed most useful to the future investigator, especially the student of scientific history. It had been his hope that his library would help in the training of some future great scientist, or in his work. This being his motive, he was especially anxious that the library should not be divided, but should belong to some institution in which astronomical and kindred branches of research are carried on.

With this end in view the value of the library is estimated at only \$7,000, which is the estimated cost of the purchased books alone, although the number of transactions of societies and other gift books together with the many thousand pamphlets form a very considerable portion of the value of the library.

There are nearly 4,000 volumes and about 4,000 pamphlets in the library; the pamphlets are all classified and arranged for easy reference and include reprints of memoirs of astronomy, mathematics and physics. In round numbers 1,000 volumes are complete sets of publications of learned societies and observatories.

There is a complete set of Crelle's journal. There are 75-100 catalogues of precision (star-

places). The library is especially rich in all branches of astronomy, including popular works, history of astronomy, ancient astronomy, mathematical astronomy, astrophysics, stellar astronomy and photographic astronomy. The large number of volumes on celestial mechanics, including the works of the most celebrated writers is worthy of special mention. The bulk of the library is of course on astronomy and mathematics, the former predominating, but there are also several hundred volumes on physics, geography and meteorology, and many of the transactions cover general science. It is believed that this is the most complete library of its kind in America except, perhaps, that at Harvard University and including the Harvard Observatory library.

In addition to the above and not as yet catalogued, are several hundred—possibly approaching 1,000—books, reports and volumes of periodicals on economic subjects. This is also for sale with or apart from the above.

A typewritten catalogue of this library has been prepared under Professor Newcomb's personal direction in which the works are classified approximately on the system now current in catalogues of astronomical literature. This will be sent to any one contemplating purchase of the collections as a whole. Until about the middle of September the library will remain in place and may be examined.

#### *SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS*

PROFESSOR SAMUEL WILLIAM JOHNSON, emeritus professor of agricultural chemistry in Yale University, where he has held a professorship for fifty-three years, a member of the National Academy of Sciences since 1866, past president of the American Chemical Society, eminent for his contributions to agricultural chemistry, died in New Haven on July 21 in his eightieth year.

PROFESSOR NEWCOMB's daughter, Mrs. Anita Newcomb McGee, 1620 P street, Washington, is engaged in the preparation of a biography of her father, and will be most appreciative of any assistance which his friends may render,

such as by sending her letters from him (which will be carefully copied and returned), or by furnishing any information about his life, anecdotes illustrative of character, etc.

DR. AUGUST HOCH, physician to the Bloomingdale Asylum and assistant professor of psychiatry in the Cornell Medical College, is to succeed Dr. Adolf Meyer as director of the Pathological Institute of the New York State Hospitals for the Insane.

As has been noted in SCIENCE, an Academy of Sciences at Heidelberg has been established with an endowment of a million Marks, given by Herr Lanz, of Mannheim. The original members of the academy are the following professors in the university: Bütschli, Curtius, Klebs, Königberger, Kossel, Lenard, Nissl, Wolf, Wülfing.

THE University of Geneva has conferred on Lord Lister the honorary degree of doctor of medicine.

DR. C. W. STILES, U. S. Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, has been elected a foreign corresponding member of the Academy of Medicine of Turin.

PROFESSOR B. BRAUNER, of Prague, and Mme. Curie, of Paris, have been elected members of the Krakau Academy of Sciences.

MR. J. LUNT, astrophysical assistant at the Cape Observatory, has been given the honorary degree of D.Sc., by the University of Manchester.

THE medical students of Glasgow University met in the Union on June 25 to make a presentation to Professor John Cleland, whose intention to retire from the chair of anatomy, which he has occupied for thirty-two years, has been announced.

DR. CHRISTIANI BÄUMLER, professor of pathology at Freiburg, is about to retire from active service.

DR. WILHELM EBSTEIN, professor of medicine at Göttingen, has celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his doctorate.

MR. STEPHEN DOWS THAW has been appointed assistant at the Allegheny Observatory, and Mr. Dinsmore Alter has been ap-

pointed fellow in astronomy at the same institution.

DR. ALFRED NIPPOLD has been promoted to be observer, and Professor T. H. Arndt to be chief of division in the Meteorological Institute at Berlin.

DR. V. A. MOORE, director of the State Veterinary College, Cornell University, is spending several weeks in Denmark, Germany and England. He is investigating European methods of controlling diseases of cattle.

DR. W. S. BRUCE, of the Scottish Oceanographical Laboratory, Edinburgh, has chartered a steam trawler, and is having her refitted for a scientific expedition to Prince Charles Foreland, Spitzbergen.

THE Christiania correspondent of the London *Times* reports that Dr. Nansen has now completed his preparations for the cruise which he is about to make in northern waters for the purpose of continuing his study of ocean currents and sea temperature, which have an important bearing on the questions of the fisheries and the climate of Norway. The voyage will be made in a small private yacht, which has been furnished with ice sheathing and is otherwise suitably equipped. Dr. Nansen intends to be away till the end of the autumn, and the cruise will cover the Norwegian sea towards Iceland and will possibly be continued to Greenland.

THE Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science meets at Portland, Ore., on August 17, under the presidency of Professor Thomas F. Hunt, of the Pennsylvania State College.

DR. HERMON C. BUMPUS, director of the American Museum of Natural History, New York; Mr. Gifford Pinchot, United States forester, and Professor J. W. Toumey, of Yale University, were among the speakers in a program of illustrated talks on "Our Forests and their Conservation," given at Bar Harbor on July 27.

FRANK CARNEY, Ph.D. (Cornell), professor of geology in Denison University, delivered a course of lectures on "Geographic Influences" in the University of Virginia during the summer session.

WE learn from *Nature* that the first Gustave Canet lecture was delivered by Lieutenant Trevor Dawson at the twenty-fifth anniversary meeting of the Junior Institution of Engineers on June 30. The lecturer is the recipient of the first gold medal, which is to be awarded every fourth year by Madame Canet in memory of her husband, the award being made through the council of the institution.

MR. A. R. BROWN, M.A., fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed Martin White lecturer in ethnology in the University of London for the session of 1909-10.

A BRONZE memorial tablet in honor of the late Dr. George W. Hough has been unveiled with appropriate exercises in Dearborn Observatory of Northwestern University.

WE learn from the *British Medical Journal* that Sir Hector Cameron, on behalf of the committee of subscribers to the fund in memory of the late Dr. James Finlayson, of Glasgow, has presented a deed of gift to the council of the faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, conveying to the council the future management of the fund. The income from the fund is to be held and applied as the endowment of a lectureship to be called the "Finlayson Memorial Lectureship." The lectures are to deal with pathology, or the practise or history of medicine.

DR. T. H. LORENZ, docent for mineralogy at Marburg, has died at the age of thirty-four years.

THE international committee formed to celebrate the centenary of the publication of Avogadro's memoir on the molecular constitution of gases consists of eminent chemists and physicists throughout the world. The numbers from the different countries having more than one representative, and not including Italy, are: Germany, 23; France, 19; Great Britain, 17; United States, 10; Austria, 8; Holland, 8; Russia, 7; Switzerland, 6; Sweden, 4; Belgium, 3; Denmark, 2, and Norway, 2.

A METEOROLOGICAL and astronomical observation station at an altitude of about 14,000 feet is to be erected on Mount Whitney, California, by the Smithsonian Institution. The

work of preparing the trail up the mountain over which the material will be transported by pack mules is already under way. It is expected that the station, which will be temporary, will be completed by the first of September.

THE next international congress of mining and metallurgy is to be held in June, 1910, at Dusseldorf. The last congress was at Liége in 1905.

THE south, with twenty-seven per cent. of the total area of the United States, contains about forty-two per cent. of the total forest area of the country. The forest area by states is as follows: Alabama, 20,000,000 acres; Arkansas, 24,200,000; Florida, 20,000,000; Georgia, 22,300,000; Kentucky, 10,000,000; Louisiana, 16,500,000; Maryland, 2,200,000; Mississippi, 17,500,000; North Carolina, 19,-600,000; South Carolina, 12,000,000; Tennessee, 15,000,000; Texas, 30,000,000; Virginia, 14,000,000 and West Virginia, 9,100,000. The south, it will be seen, has still much of the virgin forest of the country. This forest must be used, of course, in order to meet the steadily expanding wants of this section. It must be used in such a manner, however, that the very most may be made from its annual cut, while at the same time this cut is being replaced by new growth. In this way its timber will remain a source of perpetual wealth. The importance of forest conservation to southern interests is clearly understood by the people of the south. The future of the south is more nearly bound up in the plan of forest preservation, with its accompanying protection to watersheds, power-streams and wood-working industries, than is anything now before the people of this part of the country. Not only is the protection of the watersheds, which will some day furnish the power to run all manufacturing establishments in the entire south, an important matter to the south, but the industries depending upon the forest products will also be benefited by the protection thrown about the remaining timbered area.

*The Globe and Commercial Advertiser*, New York City, contained recently a truly remarkable article by Mr. E. F. Naulty, the character

of which may be judged from the following editorial introduction: "Edwin F. Naulty, of this city, has recently created lively interest and discussion by his assertions concerning the 'new' comet which he and Dr. Brooks, of Hobart College, announced to the world several weeks ago. Especial interest has attached to Mr. Naulty's statements attributing to the movements of this comet certain disturbing manifestations in nature, such as cyclones, fires and floods—and more particularly the numerous shipwrecks which have puzzled marine experts."

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE five hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the University of Leipzig is being celebrated this week. In addition to banquets and receptions, there are two academic ceremonies. At the first of these addresses are to be made by the rector, Professor Binding, and by the King of Saxony, followed by addresses from delegates; at the second, an address by Professor Wundt, followed by the conferring of honorary degrees.

IT is proposed to establish in connection with the Paris University a system of exchange between French and foreign professors on similar lines to that which obtains between Germany and the United States. M. Liard, rector of the university, has made an appeal to create a fund for the purpose. M. Albert Kahn has placed at the disposal of the rector an annual grant of 30,000 francs for five years.

THE registration for the first term of the summer quarter at the University of Chicago shows a growth in every one of the schools of the institution. The total number registered on July 10 was 2,817, as compared with 2,593 at the end of July, 1908.

At the University of Chicago associate professors have been appointed from the grade of assistant professors as follows: Carl Kinsley, physics; Chas. M. Child, zoology; Anton J. Carlson, physiology, and H. Gideon Wells, pathology.

ELLIS E. LAWTON, Ph.D. (Yale), who has been professor of physics during the past year

in Colby College, has accepted the professorship of physics in Denison University.

MALCOLM E. STICKNEY, for several years assistant professor of botany in Denison University, has been promoted to the full professorship in that subject.

DR. C. E. STROMQUIST, of Princeton University, has been appointed professor of mathematics at the University of Wyoming.

W. E. WENGER, formerly assistant professor of railway engineering in the University of Illinois, has been appointed associate professor in the department of electrical engineering at McGill University.

THE council of King's College has elected Mr. C. G. Barkla, D.Sc., professor of physics, in succession to Professor Harold Wilson, F.R.S., who has accepted the chair in McGill University.

DR. E. KNECHT has been appointed professor of technological chemistry in the University of Manchester.

DR. EDUARD BUCHNER, of the Agricultural School at Berlin, has been appointed professor of chemistry in the University of Breslau, to succeed Professor Ladenburg, who has retired from active service.

DR. FRITZ COHN, astronomer in the Observatory at Königsberg, has been called to a chair of astronomy at Berlin.

DR. VOLKMAR KOHLSCHÜTTER, associate professor of chemistry at Strassburg, has been called to the chair at Bern, vacant by the retirement of Professor Friedheim.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### A NOMENCLATORIAL COURT?

THE communication of my friend, Mr. Francis N. Balch, on the subject of a nomenclatorial court<sup>1</sup> has been perused with interest by me, not only on account of the novel proposition and the new point of view from which the subject was contemplated, but also because an analogous proposition has been for some years advocated by me in correspondence and conversation regarding zoological nomenclature.

<sup>1</sup> SCIENCE, June 25, pp. 998-1000.